

**KENTUCKY COMMISSION
ON
SERVICES AND SUPPORTS
FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL
AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

**September 8, 2017
Public Health Suites A & B
275 E. Main Street
Frankfort, KY 40621**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deputy Secretary Tim Feeley
Commissioner Wendy Morris
Lori Gresham for Commissioner Steve P.
Miller
Representative Joni Jenkins
Representative Larry Brown
Gayle J. DiCesare
Jeff White for Kathy Sheppard-Jones

Missy R. McKiernan
Andrew A. Venetianer
Karen F. Herdina
Katie Bentley for Pat Seybold
Julie Sweets
Berlinda Bazzell
Virginia (Jini) Payne

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Julie Raque Adams
Stella Beard
Lynn Braker
Becky Cabe
Christopher George

Senator Tom Buford
D. Brandon Griffith
Lesley Reising
Michael S. Smith
Rita D. Wooton

WELCOME

Deputy Secretary Feeley opened the meeting and welcomed Commission members and members of the audience.

NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION

Deputy Secretary Feeley announced the appointment of Lesley Reising to the Commission to fulfill the term of James Chesser. An updated Commission Membership List is a part of the Meeting Packet.

MEMBER RECOGNITION

Deputy Secretary Feeley recognized Representative Joni Jenkins. Representative Jenkins was recently appointed chairperson of the National Labor Caucus.

Deputy Secretary Feeley recognized Representative Larry Brown who was unable to attend the previous meeting.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

- Minutes from the June 9, 2017 meeting reviewed.
- There was no quorum available to accept the minutes.
- Approval of minutes deferred to the next meeting.

STATUS OF PRIOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID), Division of Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities (DDID) provided a written response to PDS Recommendation. Staff from DDID are working with PDS Committee gathering information related to the feasibility of a DSP Registry.
- An update will be provided at next Commission meeting.

MAXIMIZING COMMUNITY ACCESS & OTHER SCL SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

- Michelle Niehaus, Program Administrator, Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Services, DBHDID, presented on the use of Community Access and other Supports for Community (SCL) Medicaid Waiver services for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Kentucky currently has between 420-430 individuals in the Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) system who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or deaf-blind.
- Currently, only \$10,000 per year of State General Funds within DBHDID are allocated to assist in meeting access needs of this population.
- In the spring of 2015, there were 47 people identified as deaf in the SCL program and 99 people identified as hard-of-hearing.
- Direct Support Professionals or other staff often do not have specialized training in the area of deaf/hard-of-hearing services.
- Ms. Niehaus presented a list of concerns and corresponding recommendations.
- Ms. Niehaus is currently collaborating with DDID on two initiatives: (1) training for DSPs and other providers utilizing an approach from Pennsylvania in the provision of appropriate person-centered supports; and (2) a process that includes an assessment to determine the person's communication needs.
- Members of the Commission encouraged members of the deaf/hard-of-hearing community to become members of existing HB 144 Committees and/or to apply for any vacant self-advocate position advertised in the future.

KENTUCKYWORKS

- Jeff White, Project Director of KentuckyWorks provided an overview of the project
- KentuckyWorks is a collaboration between the University of Kentucky-Human Development Institute, Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Kentucky Department of Education, Kentucky Division of Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities, Kentucky Office for the

Blind, Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities, Kentucky Protection & Advocacy, Kentucky Autism Training Center, and the Kentucky Office of Autism.

- A goal of the project is to increase positive post-school outcomes for students with the most significant disabilities in Kentucky by 20 percentage points over the five years of the grant.
- The target population are Kentucky transition-age students with disabilities according to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) classifications of moderate or severe intellectual disability, autism, and multiple disabilities.
- Identified barriers to employment include lack of employer engagement; limited number of supported employment providers; transportation; concerns about benefits; family/guardian does not feel the person is capable of working; school focus on employment occurs too late; and lack of long-term supports.
- The approach of KentuckyWorks includes policy development, stakeholder engagement, and education
- The project has launched a website that can be downloaded as an app on a person's smartphone.

DD NETWORK NEEDS SURVEY

- Jeff White, representing Kathy Sheppard-Jones, provided information on the DD Network Needs Survey.
- Participation is voluntary; it is requested that the survey be shared with all relevant populations so the DD Network is able to have an accurate reflection of what is occurring across the state.
- Contact Walt Bower at the Human Development Institute at walt.bower@ky.gov.
- Kathy Sheppard-Jones will have the survey link forwarded to HB 144 Commission members.

REVIEW OF 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

- Commission members received the HB 144 Annual Report Draft in advance for review.
- Missy McKiernan requested the insertion of language explaining the Commission gave no recommendations for Goals 3 and 5 due to the unavailability of slots in the waiver programs; however, advocacy is ongoing.
- A quorum was present at this point in the meeting and a motion to approve with addition of language given by Missy McKiernan and seconded by Karen Herdina.
- Commission members will receive a copy of the final report prior to submission to the Governor and General Assembly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Community Integration**
 - Missy McKiernan and Andrew Venetianer, Co-Chairs provided updates.
 - Committee did not meet during the quarter.
 - Continue to work on recommendations regarding transportation and medically complex supports
 - Missy McKiernan thanked Deputy Secretary Feeley and Commissioner Morris for having guest speakers come to the Commission meetings during the past year.

- No recommendations submitted.
- **Health/Wellness**
 - Jeff White, Project Director, KentuckyWorks served as representative for Kathy Sheppard-Jones and provided the Committee update.
 - Health/Wellness Committee met in August.
 - Received updates on health/wellness initiatives, including Project CHEER and the Health Partners program.
 - Chris George provided information on the Shine House in Somerset.
 - The Shine House is a nonprofit community arts center in Somerset.
 - Goal is to provide the community instruction in a variety of visual art forms: painting, drawing, sculpture, mixed media, and object art.
 - The Shine House is an inclusive organization and welcomes all community members regardless of age, educational level, ability, disability, artistic knowledge, current or past life situation.
 - The Shine House has relationships with Day Training programs throughout the area where individuals with disabilities are welcome to attend and participate in all activities of interest provided.
 - They welcome a partnership with the Health/Wellness Program at the Human Development Institute.
 - For more information visit: www.theshinehouse.com
 - The Committee continues to gather data from the Health Risk Screening Tool (HRST) related to use of psychotropic medications.
 - The Committee will be working with multiple partners to develop a survey about health/wellness issues.
 - No recommendations submitted.
- **Participant-Directed Services**
 - Julie Sweets and Andrew Venetianer, PDS Committee members provided brief update in absence of co-chairs.
 - Committee met in August and discussed the following:
 - Brandon Griffith presented on the use of technology assisted devices and supports that promotes person-centered independent living.
 - Lori Gresham provided updates related to waiver redesign efforts.
 - Stella Beard discussed the loss of State General Funds (SGF) that supported the Arc of Kentucky and her resignation as the Executive Director.
 - Deputy Secretary Feeley requested a presentation on technology accessibility be scheduled for the next Commission meeting scheduled for December 2017.
 - Deputy Secretary Feeley provided information related to the funding cut to Arc of Kentucky. As noted in the Governor's line item budget veto the previous year, Arc of Kentucky should be a self-sustaining advocacy agency and not dependent upon state dollars for sustainability.
 - No recommendations submitted.

DMS UPDATE

- Lori Gresham, Department for Medicaid Services provided updates.
- Waiver Redesign
 - Identified Navigant team members
 - Navigant has worked with other states in waiver redesign associated with long-term services and supports (LTSS)
 - Important that members of the community understand the difference between the 1115 KY Health waiver and the 1915(c) waivers.
 - Provided updated timeline, progress to date, and next steps.
 - Prior to next HB 144 Commission meeting, statewide focus groups at 10 locations with participants, caregivers, providers and advocates will be scheduled to collect feedback regarding waiver redesign.
 - Anyone who wishes to participate in the focus group sessions should call Misty Peach at 502-564-7540 or email Misty at Misty.Peach@ky.gov

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Cheri Ellis-Reeves, family member of an individual supported in an Intermediate Care Facility/for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID)
 - Advocated for individuals with profound intellectual disabilities to remain in the ICF setting based on the Olmstead Act that allows for family choice.
 - Currently families must keep appearing in court in order to keep family members at Oakwood.
 - Request that families of individuals thriving in the ICF setting be given consideration in any changes to programs that support their loved ones.

IN CLOSING

- Deputy Secretary Feeley thanked everyone for attending and reminded Commission members of the meeting date change for December. The next quarterly meeting will be held on Friday, December 8th from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the same location.
- Motion to adjourn by Andrew Venetianer; second by Missy McKiernan.
- Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

****Approved December 8, 2017****